

The dangerous, wild ride

Subject: The dangerous, wild ride

From: Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>

Date: 09/16/2016 10:10 PM

To: lisa@mediadistrict.org

 [Mitch O'Farrell, Councilmember, 13th District](#)

Friend --

Los Angeles is a global destination. While we welcome visitors from across the world, it's important that the City maintain its priority to provide a positive quality of life for its residents. When it comes to sightseeing bus operators, commonly found in Hollywood, a lack of local control is creating a dangerous situation for those who live and visit this part of the 13th District and our neighboring communities.

Since I was sworn into office, I have been working to calm the circus-like atmosphere along the Hollywood Walk of Fame, one of the top tourist destinations in all of Los Angeles.

My staff and I have been working to regulate where tour bus operators can approach potential customers, and identifying areas where the tour bus operators could stage their passenger vehicles in an effort to reduce congestion and increase parking on Hollywood Boulevard.

Next, I am focusing on the safety of passengers who ride in those tour buses which depart from Hollywood. Speeding in neighborhoods, illegally altered vans, inoperable seatbelts, and lack of respect for our communities were all in focus in recent media reports that garnered international attention. This is not the Hollywood I want visitors to experience, nor is it the type of neighborhood to which anyone should come home.

Angelenos deserve better, which is why I introduced a motion this morning that directs staff to report on establishing a City regulatory framework for sightseeing bus operations in the City.

The report will include recommendations that will allow the City to safeguard public and passenger safety, minimize nuisance and unauthorized activities, and address any necessary legislative changes to state and federal regulations. The item will now go to the City's Transportation Committee.

[You can read the motion here](#), and I will be sure to update you in the coming weeks and months as this moves forward in the legislative process.

Warm regards,

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Mitch O'Farrell

COMING UP

TUES 9/20 [SILVER LAKE RESERVOIR COMPLEX COMMUNITY MEETING](#)

SAT 9/24 [COUNCILMEMBER IN YOUR CORNER - HISTORIC FILIPINOTOWN](#)

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